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Firka Development (1949) Department.

MS SERIES.

G.O. No. 399

Dated 11-4-1949

[Despatch Abstract.]

MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - Starred Question by Sri B. Nagaraja Maniyagar M.L.A. - Important amenities provided in the firkas and centres - Paper laid on the table of the house - Recorded.

FIRKA DEVELOPMENT

* 712 Question - Sri K. Rajaram Nayudu (on behalf of Sri S. Nagaraja Manigar): Will the Hon. the Minister for Firka Development be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government are not going to select additional firkas in the districts for Firka Development, since our districts are big ones:

(b) whether the work in the selected firkas is going on as per plan, if any:

(c) the sum of money allotted for the whole Province and the sum of money so far spent; and

(d) the important amenities that have so far been provided in the selected firkas?

THE HON. Dr. S. GURUBATHAM:- "(a) No. The Government do not at present contemplate extending the intensive rural reconstruction scheme to more firkas; they are watching theworking of the scheme in the firkas and centres already selected.

"(b) Yes. The hon. Member's attention is invited to the plan for Firka Development already laid on the table of the House on 21st September 1948 in answer to Starred Question No.

"(c) A sum of rupees one crore has been set apart for financing general schemes of Rural Reconstruction in the selected firkas and centres in the Province. The expenditure incurred so far for this purpose is as follows:-

	Amount Rs.
1946-47	1,57,651
1947-48	6,89,724
1948-49 up to end of October 1948 ..	3,90,456

"(d) A statement a of the amenities provided in the selected firkas up to the end of December 1948 is laid on the table of the House."

Sri B.S. Murthi:- "May I know why the expenditure in 1948-1949 is only half of the expenditure in 1947-1948? Is it because of any deterioration in Firka Development work?".

THE HON. Dr. S. GURUBATHAM:-"It is pure mathematics. The figure for 1948-1949 is only for six months ending with October 1948, and therefore the expenditure is only half. We have got six more months to complete the year."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:-"Is it not a fact that Khadi production, which is one of the important items in the Firka Development Scheme, is not receiving the support of the villagers, and will the Government therefore scrap this item from that scheme?".

THE HON. Dr. S. GURUBATHAM: - "Khadi production is not neglaected by the villagers. Villagers welcome it."

Sri R.V. Swaminathan:- "Does the meagre work turned out under the Firka Development Scheme as given in the Statement laid on the table justify the expenditure of so much money and the maintenance of a separate department and a separate Minister."

THE HON. Dr. S. GURUBATHAM:-"It is a matter of opinion. I would like the hon. Member to compare this work with the work done by other departments that have been in existence for several years."

Sri K. Rajaram Nayudu:-"Are the Government aware that no electric connexion is given for pumpting out water from wells in the selected firkas even though electricity is available near by and that no improvement in agriculture is possible without electric power where there are no other means of irrigation except pumping out water?".

THE HON. Dr. S. GURUBATHAM:-"The Government are aware that electric supply is not extended with as a great a rapidity as I would like it to be, and the department concerned pleads that there are many difficulties in the way. The Government are also that electricity is very important for irrigation and they are doing their best to hasten the extension of electricity."

Sri K. Bokkai Gowder:-"In the statement laid on the table, under the head 'Water Supply' we are told that new wells have been sunk and old wells repaired or improved. May I know whether there is any other schemes for water-supply in the selected firkas?".

THE HON. Dr. S. GURUBATHAM:-"No, Sir, there is ~~an~~ no other schemes under the Firka Development Plan. If there are other schemes, the other departments will be responsible for them."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:-"May I know how the Hon. Minister reconciles his answer that Khadi is welcomed by the people with his speech ~~e~~ at a public meeting reported in the Press that Khadi development is not receiving the support that it deserves?".

THE HON. Dr. S. GURUBATHAM:-"I ~~a~~an reconcile and there is no contradiction between these two statements. My object in addressing the public meeting was to stimulate the people to take to more and more of Khadi work."

Dr. M.J. Samuel:-"May I know how many villages in the selected firkas are connected with main roads?".

THE HON. Dr. S. Gurubatham:- "A separate question may be asked."

Sri L.N. Gopalaswami:-"May I ask whether the cost of providing the amenities referred to in clause (d) of the answer is met entirely by the Government or whether it is supplemented by any local contributions?".

THE HON. Dr. S. GURUBATHAM:-"On an average, onethird of the expenditure is met by the villagers in the shape of money, labour or land. The figures given in the answer represent the expenditure incurred by the Government and does not include the people's contribution."

Sri B.S. Murthi:-"In the statement laid on the table, under the heading 'Public Health' we are told that 15 hospitals dispensaries and maternity homes were started. May I know whether it means that 15 hospitals, 15 dispensaries and 15 ~~m~~ maternity homes were started or whether it is 15 all told?".

THE HON. Dr. S. Gurubatham:- " A separate question may be put."

Sri K. Bokkai Gowder:-"May I know what the fate of the water-supply schemes will be which have been recommended by the Kunda Firka Development Committee for which huge contributions have been paid by the villagers?".

THE HON. Dr. S. GURUBATHAM:-"I have already answered this question on the floor of this House. Four, schemes have been presented by the villagers and we have asked for an overall picture of the whole firka. The Government were not prepared to spend the whole allotment on these villages only."

M.S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:-"I have visited one or two Development Firkas and I do not propose to express my views about them. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether he can point to any two properly developed firkas which the hon. Members of this House can Visit?".

THE HON. Dr. S. GURUBATHAM:-"One can see the Tirumangalam and Ongole Firkas which are more advanced than the others."

Sri R.V. Swaminathan:-"May I request the Hon. Leader of the House to allot a day for a full-dress debate regarding the Firka Development Scheme since there is a feeling in the Province that Public funds are being wasted on this item?".

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:-"During the Budget discussion under the particular Demand for Grant, this can be appropriately discussed."

Sri R.V. Swaminathan:-"My reason is that in the light of a debate in advance of the Budget, the Government may be able to decide whether it is necessary to provide funds or not in the Budget."

SRI V.I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:-"Is it not a fact that the Government have asked the Collector of the Nilgiris to submit a comprehensive water-supply scheme for the villages in the Development Firka of that district?"

THE HON. Dr. S. GURUBATHAM:-"Yes, that is the answer I have given."

Sri P. Natesan:- "What is the benefit that these Development Firkas receive as a result of electric supply?".

The Hon. Dr. S. Gurubatham:-"Electric supply improves the irrigation facilities in the firkas."

Sri N.S. Varadachari:-"Is the Hon. Minister aware that wells are of no use in the Nilgiris district, that the only way of providing water-supply to regions where there is no water is by pumping out water and that schemes have to be undertaken in this direction?".

The Hon. Dr. S. Gurubatham:- "That is true."

Sri P. Natesan:-"May I know for what purpose 46 studbulls have been supplied?".

The Hon. Dr. S. GURUBATHAM:-"For the 34 Firkas, we have to further increase the number."

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SUPERINTENDENT

SP/22.7. Madras Record Office.

To A.S.

Please see the printed official report of the proceedings relating to starred Assembly Question No. 192 on pages 233-235 C.F. No action appears called for on these proceedings . For orders whether the papers may now be recorded as a G.O.Ms.

(Sd) . . . .
9.4.49

G.O. Ms. No. 399 Dated 11-4-1949.

ABSTRACT:-

Madras Legislative Assembly
Starred Question by Sri S. Nagaraja Maniyagar M.L.A. - Important amenities provided in the firkas and centres - Paper laid on the table of the house - Recoeded.

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